

As the federal budget deficit for the current year races past \$1 trillion, Congress continues to spend taxpayer dollars at an alarming rate. The Treasury Department recently reported that the government spent nearly \$95 billion more than it raised during the month of June.

In the midst of an economic crisis, Congress should exercise some measure of fiscal responsibility and work to reduce the deficit. As the only member of the House Appropriations Committee to swear off congressional earmarks, I voted recently to eliminate federal spending for a number of unnecessary projects, including the following:

- \$325,000 for the “Institute for Seafood Studies”
- \$600,000 for the “Summer Flounder and Black Sea Initiative
- \$180,000 for “Training the Next Generation of Weather Forecasters”
- \$150,000 for the “Village Park Historic Project of the Traditional Arts in Upstate New York”
- \$150,000 for “Tarrytown Music Hall Restoration”
- \$1,000,000 for the “Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation”
- \$638,000 for the “Foundry Sand By-Products Utilization Project”